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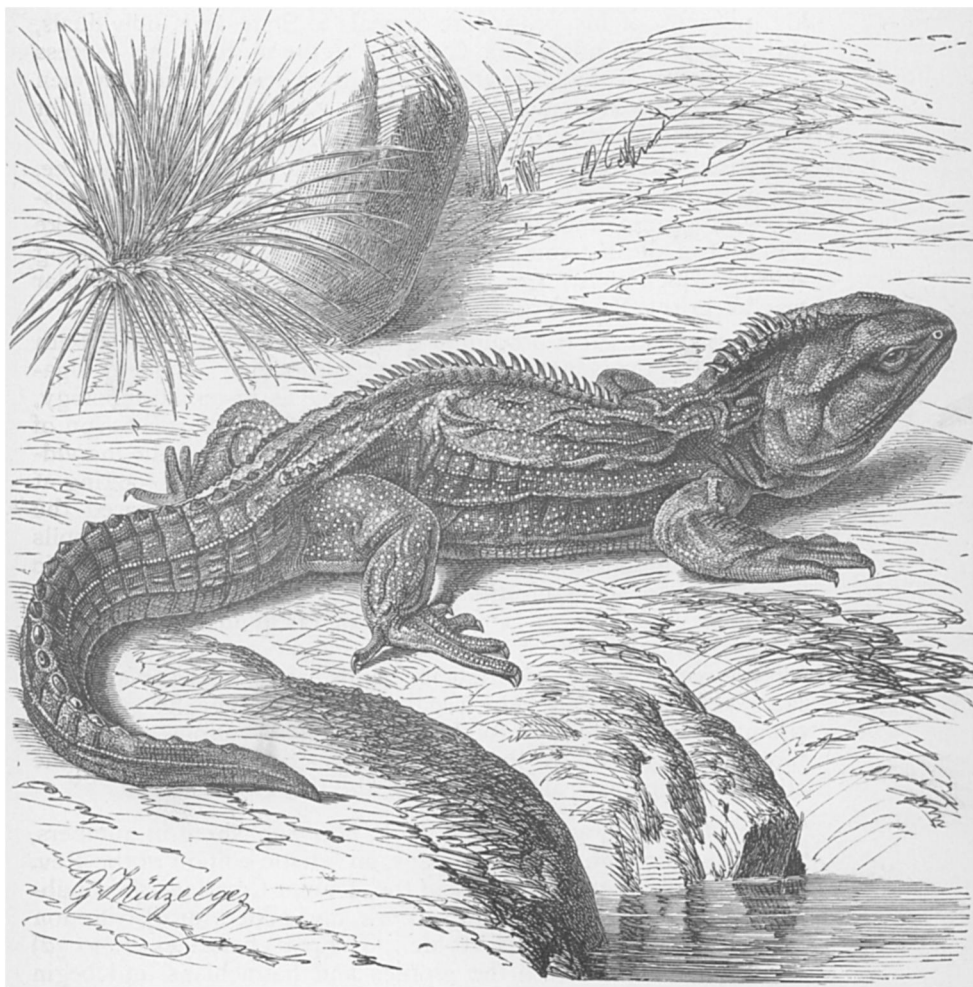
As a youth, Agassiz was indefatigable as a collector, personally attractive, full of high impulses, and his whole mind pervaded with the scientific spirit. His early dreams were fully realized; his castles in the air were actually built—he laid their foundations and saw the superstructures materialized in richly illustrated volumes and in brick and iron. The vast collections—the results of his journeys, of his passionate appeals to State and individuals, the unsolicited funds which flowed in as the meed of his success in winning the confidence and sympathy of scientific and lay men—these fill the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, that monument of a life of rare devotion to high ideals.

Agassiz was a genius. Winning in manner to an unusual degree, full of ardor and enthusiasm, often reckless, but always successful, with a grain of fanaticism and one-sidedness in his nature, like a knight of old he won his proud position as one of the leading scientific men of his age and the most influential and popular teacher in the New World.

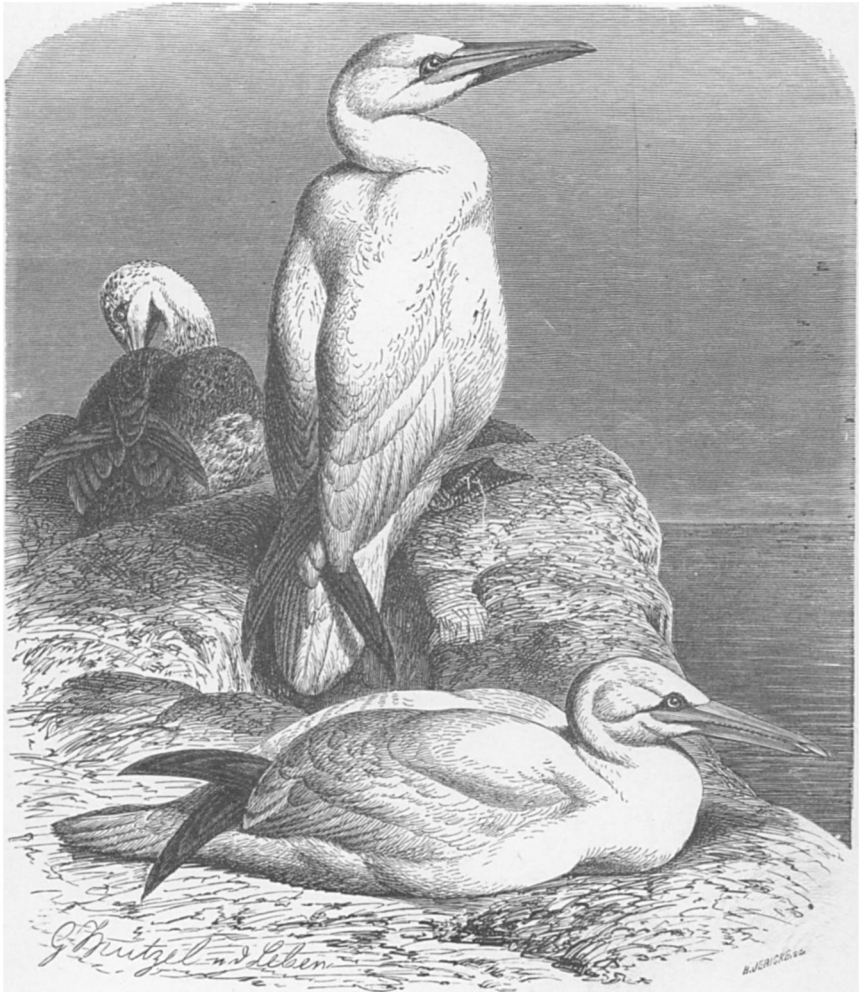
Agassiz had great powers of generalization, side by side with those of acquisitiveness, of facts and specimens. His investigations in embryology, palæontology, as well as systematic zoölogy, led him to form clear views as to the geological succession of animals, the parallelism between the development of the individual and the group to which it belongs. His mode of looking at nature, the whole drift of his teachings, naturally prepared the mind for the reception of evolutionary ideas, and while his pupils and his contemporaries advanced naturally to these philosophic conceptions or generalizations, Agassiz,—whether owing to early prejudice, the lack of a judicial turn of mind and analytical powers, the modicum of combativeness and bigotry in his strong, intense nature, or the multiplicity of his labors and cares in the later years of his life, which gave him little time for sustained thought,—failed to rise to the grand generalizations of modern biology. He will be known in the history of science as the strongest opponent, after Cuvier, of the theory of descent.

OUR LIVING WORLD.—This work, now publishing in numbers, is, in the language of the title-page, an artistic edition of the Rev. J. G. Wood's *Natural History of the Animal Creation*. It is published by Selmar Hess, of New York, and edited for distribution in this country by Dr. J. B. Holder. The parts before us (27 to 32) finish the birds, discuss the reptiles and batrachians, and begin the account of the fishes. As will be seen by the samples illustrating this notice, the illustrations, which are mostly taken from Brehm's *Thierleben*, are very superior to any elsewhere printed, and give much value to the work.

The oleographs are also copies, by Mr. Prang, of those in Brehm's popular work. We should like to have had the remarkable characteristics of the New Zealand *Sphenodon* given. As it is



The Sphenodon of New Zealand.



The Gannet.

it is regarded simply as the type of a family of ordinary lizards, whereas, by the best authorities, the group Rynchocephalia is regarded as a distinct order of reptiles of very primitive structure.

RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.

- Fiske, J.*—The idea of God. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Cambridge, 1866. From the publishers.
- Thompson, D. W.*—A bibliography of Protozoa, Coelenterata and worms, 1861–1885. Cambridge University press, 1885. From the publishers.
- Kane, W. F. de V.*—European butterflies. Macmillan & Co., 1885. From the publishers.
- Cunningham, D. J.*—Inaugural address delivered at the opening of the new Anatomical Theater, Trinity College, Dublin. 1885. From the author.
- Credner, H.*—Die Stegocephalen, part v, Berlin, 1885. From the author.
- Trelease, Wm.*—Observations on several Zoöglœæ and related forms. Studies from the Johns Hopkins Biological Laboratory, 1885. From the editors.
- Bonney, T. G.*—On the so-called diorite of Little Knot, Cumberland, etc. Ext. Quart. Jour. Geol. Soc., Nov., 1885. From the author.
- Ruschenberger, W. S. W.*—A sketch of the life of Robert E. Rogers, M.D., LL.D. Read bef. Amer. Phil. Soc., Nov. 6, 1885. From the author.
- Lawrence, G. N.*—Characters of two supposed new species of birds from Yucatan. Ext. Annals New York Acad. Sci., Vol. iv, 1885.
- Descriptions of new species of birds of the family Columbidae. The Auk, Oct. 4, 1885.
- Description of a new species of bird of the genus Engyptila, with notes on two Yucatan birds. Ext. Ann. N. Y. Acad. Sci., Vol. iii. All from the author.
- Becker, G. F.*—Geometrical form of volcanic cones and the elastic limit of lava. Ext. Amer. Jour. of Sci., Vol. xxx. From the author.
- Cross, W., and Hillebrand, W. F.*—Contributions to the mineralogy of the Rocky mountains. Bulletin 20 U. S. Geol. Survey. From the authors.
- ?—A handbook to the National Museum at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington. From the author.
- Morse, E. S.*—Japanese homes and their surroundings. Ticknor & Co., 1886. From the author.
- Meynert, Th.*—Psychiatry; a clinical treatise on diseases of the fore-brain. Translated by B. Sachs, M.D. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1885. From the publishers.
- Boulenger, G. A.*—Catalogue of the lizards in the British Museum, Vols. I and II. London, 1885. From the trustees of the British Museum.
- Errera, L.*—Sur l'existence du glycogène dans la levure de bière. Ext. Comptes Rendus des Seances de l'acad. des Sciences, 1885. From the author.
- Wilder, B. G.*—The life of Agassiz. Ext. Cornell Review, 1885. From the author.
- Agassiz, A., et al.*—Twenty-fifth annual report of the curator of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy at Harvard, 1884–85. From the author.
- Meyer, O.*—The genealogy and age of the species in the Southern Old Tertiary. Ext. Amer. Jour. de Science, Vol. xxx, 1885. From the author.
- Hennessy, H.*—On the comparative temperature of the Northern and Southern hemispheres. Ext. Philos. Mag., Nov. 1885.
- On the winters of Great Britain and Ireland as influenced by the Gulf Stream. Ext. idem. Both from the author.
- Macdonald, C. C.*—A sermon on the relation of evolution to Christianity. Read at the meeting of the Brit. Assoc. Adv. Sci., Aberdeen, 1885. From the author.
- Müller, F.*—Vierter Nachtrag zum Catalog der herpetologischen Sammlung des Basler Museums, 1885. From the author.